

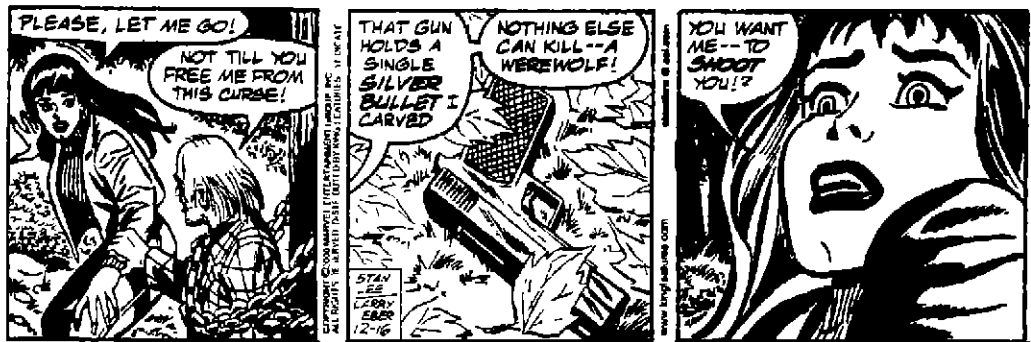
BLONDIE



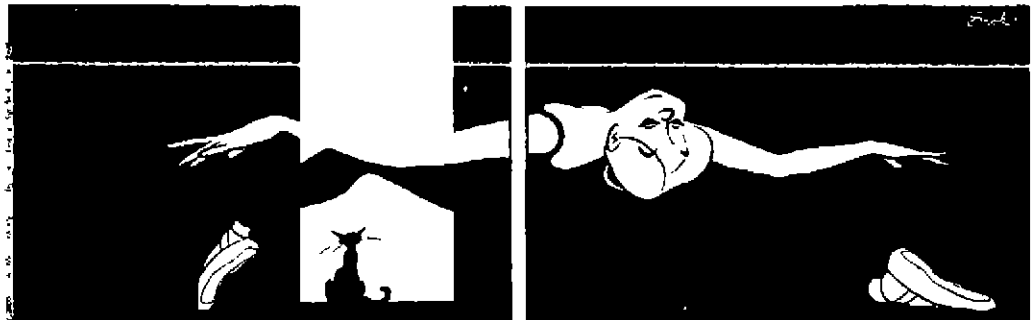
SALLY FORTH



THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



9 CHICKWEED LANE



JUMP START



ROSE IS ROSE



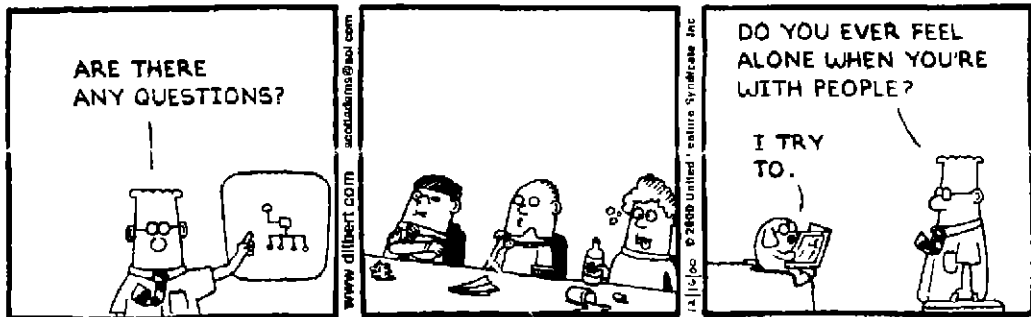
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM



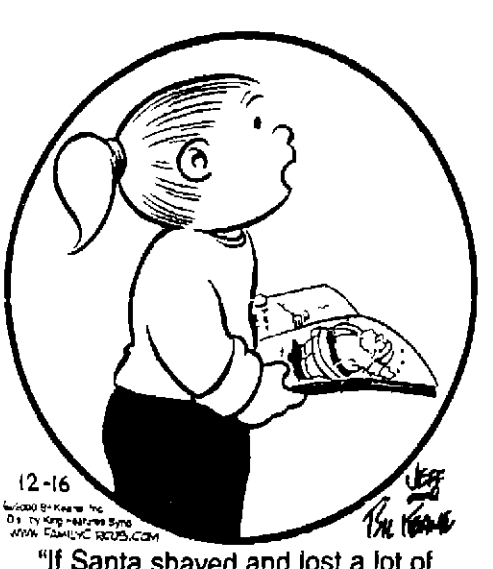
DILBERT



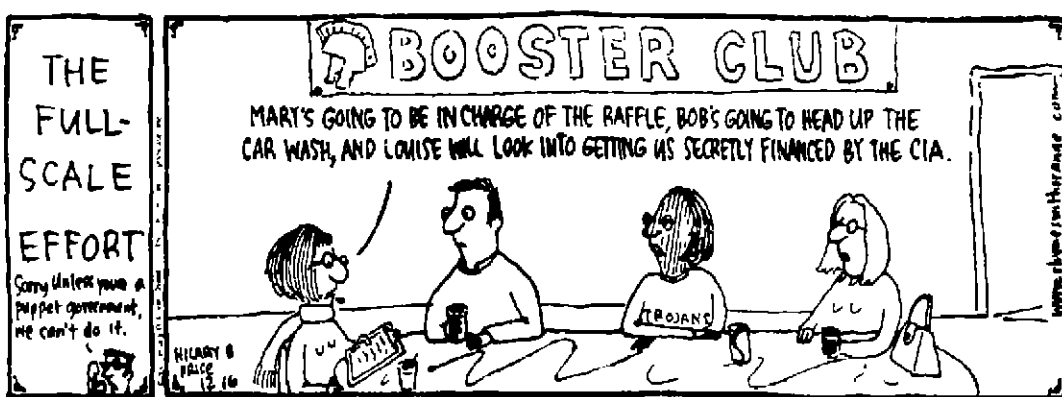
DENNIS THE MENACE



FAMILY CIRCUS



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



RALPH



Today's Birthdays

Author Sir Arthur C. Clarke is 83. Civil rights attorney Morris Dees is 64. Actress Joyce Kilmer is 82. Actress Liv Ullmann is 61. CBS news correspondent Lesley Stahl is 59. Television producer Steven Bochco is 57. Actor Ben Cross is 53. Rock singer-musician Billy Gibbons (ZZ Top) is 51. Actor Sam Rockwell is 39. Actor Jon Tenney is 39. Actor Benjamin Bratt is 37.

I NEED HELP



SCRABBLE

SCRABBLE puzzle grid and word list.

PAR SCORE 185-195 by JUDD. DIRECTIONS: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using scoring directions at right. 7 letter words get 50 point bonus. Blank tiles used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in The Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (Unabridged) and OSW Official Scrabble Words (Crabbers). JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW 12-16-00. ©2000 United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

For solution, see Classified.

WORD SLEUTH

WORD SLEUTH puzzle grid and word list.

Friday's unlisted clue: RUPEE. Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Saturday's unlisted clue: SPANISH GOLD COIN. Condor, Ducat, Guinea, Quarter, Crown, Eagle, Koruna, Shilling, Denier, Farthing, Nickel, Taler, Ounce, Groat, Penny.

For solution, see Classified.

HOROSCOPE

For Sunday, Dec. 17, 2000. ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Try a more diplomatic patient approach to people, and you might be surprised at the results. TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) You are always loving and affectionate but right now you are also high-spirited and ready to play. GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Pay close attention to details such as error messages, voice mails and road signs. CANCER (June 21 to July 22) For the time being you are as practical as you are emotional. LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) Do not be too quick to pass judgment on anyone. VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) Take this time to appreciate all the pieces that form the whole. LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Go for the familiar rather than the adventurous, as a gamble is not likely to pay off. SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Your powers of communication are at a peak and will benefit any situation. SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Stay away from meetings, interviews or any place where you will have to explain your actions. CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) Knowledge is power, and you have both. AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) Keep yourself flexible and open to the opinions of others. PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) You might want to analyze everything that comes into your path.

ACES

ACES puzzle grid and word list.

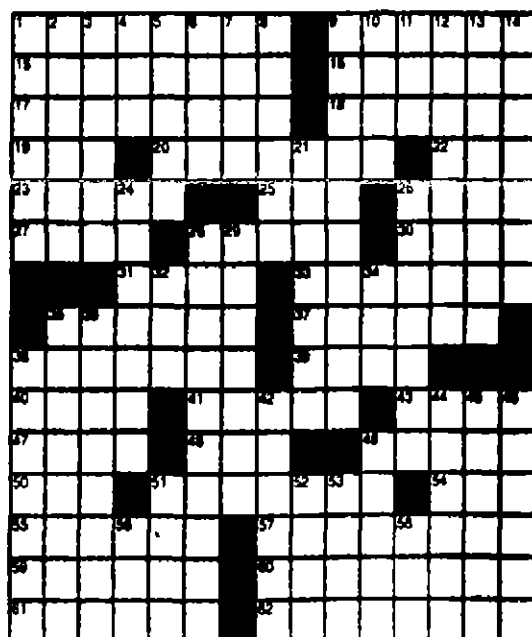
N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 1104

- ACROSS: 1 Controlling element, 9 Aqua (n/m acid), 16 In first place, 16 Situate, 17 Succeeded, 18 Country with a bird in its flag, 19 Brit's oath, 20 Little sound, 22 Big sound, 23 "Alain and \_\_\_" (1940 Georg Kaiser play), 25 Cable hits since 1988, 26 Word with life or time, 27 Bargain-hunter's goal, 28 "The Great Caruso" actress, 1951, 30 Mercyhurst College site, 31 60's-70's sports dynasty, 33 Mountain-making process, in geology, 36 Clobbered, 37 Aaron Burr's birthplace, 38 Divinity, 39 Bark, 40 Architect Mies van der \_\_\_, 41 Bawls (out), 43 Actress Kaminska et al., 47 Cleared, 48 Coll. divisions, 49 Rotten's opposite, 50 Three-time Hart Trophy winner, 51 Handel masterpiece, 54 Contest, 55 MTV figure, 57 Very quickly, 58 It gets left behind, 59 Put away, 60 Put away, 62 Unwieldy, in a way.

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

STAY, WASOCHTSYS, ARIA, ARTNOUVEAU, LOND, GREENBERYS, END, PIERRE, SETS, BCRUP, SOUSE, COE, MAUSOVIN, DETOX, AGES, DEO, OIL, NESTLED, NOTICED, EGG, WED, JOVE, AGGAA, PERSUADED, THE, PAULY, SHERI, BIRD, BREEDS, NYC, ACTONHABAE, LADA, THENATURAL, OBIT, SIXTHSENSE, PENE.



DOWN: 1 Rough, 2 "Lord Jim" actor, 1965, 3 Rare-earth oxide, 4 Na Na, 5 Snicker, 6 Suffix akin to -ese, 7 It may be checked, in two senses, 8 Mil. assignment, 9 Excellent poker hand, 10 Berge, 11 Rugged coastline feature, 12 Not so hard, 13 Scribble's ad, 14 Lake Victoria circumnavigator, 21 Word of opinion, 24 Like pedestrians on winter streets, maybe, 28 Finery, 29 Obviously tired, 32 Hierarchies, 33 Cuban Revolution name, 34 Mouse catcher, 35 Dan accessory, 36 Follow, 38 Needle locales, 42 Court statistic, 44 Great \_\_\_, 45 Hate, 46 Saturates, 49 Strand, 51 Game ender, 52 Exacted by, 53 Shortly, 54 Jabber, 58 Business card abbr.

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone 1-800-420-5656 (95¢ per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday Crosswords from the last 50 years 1-888-7-ACROSS.